

*File Copy***ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET**

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

3-5991

NO

DATE

August 1988

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

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OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

C/MOD

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C/Computer Operations

12.

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Retain/Destroy

FORM
1-79**610**USE PREVIOUS
EDITIONS

FBIS-6045-88

1 September 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Tel Aviv Bureau -- August 1988

I. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. With the unrest in the territories nearing the end of its 9th month, Defense Minister Rabin told the Knesset Defense and Foreign Affairs Committee on the 30th that 18,000 rioters have been detained since the outbreak of the uprising and that 5,600 remain in custody. HADASHOT noted on the 23d that the IDF has logged 13,319 "disturbances," of which 4,314 have involved the use of weapons, including firearms, hand grenades, molotov cocktails, and knives. Casualty figures differ depending on the source, with the IDF spokesman reporting 198 Palestinian deaths and "Palestinian sources" cited by HA'OLAM HAZE claiming 354. Despite U.S. criticism the number of deportations has reached 32, and 25 additional deportation orders are awaiting appeal. Reporting on the events in the territories continues to be a significant percentage of the bureau's file, and all of it continues to be filed at the priority/routine dual precedent or higher at the request of the BBC Newsroom.

2. Coming in the wake of an official visit to the United States by Greek Cypriot leader Yeoryios Vasilou, which was much criticized by the Turkish side; reports that Greek Prime Minister Papandreaou has postponed his official visit to Turkey; and a shooting incident in which a Greek Cypriot national guardsman was killed, the Geneva summit meeting on the 24th between Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Dektas and Vasilou was unexpectedly successful. In a statement following the 2-hour working meeting, UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar announced that the intercommunal talks will continue in Nicosia on 15 September and that the talks will be held without preconditions in the hope of solving the Cyprus problem by 1 June 1989.

B. Communications

1. A new outside telephone line was installed in the bureau in August. It will be used exclusively for automated communication links: IDD, Goldnet electronic mail service, and facsimile. The line bypasses the office's internal exchange system, thereby eliminating local distortion. The IDD and Goldnet links are operational, while the facsimile capability awaits the arrival of equipment.

2. After coordination with headquarters, the bureau began wirefiling press selections from the Government Press Office. Communications operators perform the entire operation in softcopy, downloading the material from the Goldnet electronic mail service, breaking it into takes, formatting it appropriately, and transmitting it as a service message to NEAD. These GPO translations of pickups from the Hebrew press are now reaching NEAD only a day or two after their release rather than facing pouch delays of a month or more.

D. Technical

After replacing them with new cards supplied by headquarters, the 35 original video cards for the FBA-1 personal computers were returned.

II. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

1. [] departed PCS on the 9th for his new assignment as chief, Abidjan Bureau.

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2. A new FBN wage scale, retroactive to 13 March, was issued in August. The new scale provides for a 10-14 percent increase in fringe benefits, an increase in the transportation allowance, and a resulting average increase of 4.2 percent in the adjusted basic rate. The total compensation line of the scale increased an average of 5.2 percent. A new wage survey that will affect premium pay is currently under way. The survey team expects to submit recommendations to the State Department by mid-September.

III. VISITS

A. Political Officer [] and Political Section chief translator [] visited the bureau late in the month to coordinate efforts on translating election-related material. The embassy anticipates a heavy translation load for both FBIS and Political Section translators and hopes that a duplication of effort can be minimized. Procedures were established whereby the two translation teams can help each other without reducing service to either team's consumers or impinging on either's prerogatives.

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B. The new RSO and his deputy visited the bureau on the 26th for an orientation briefing.

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Chief, Tel Aviv Bureau

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